

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for re-terminating a call on demand. This allows a subscriber to cause a previously answered incoming call to be re-terminated to the subscriber's telephone line. A method for using the present invention involves the following sequence. First, a caller dials a telephone number of a subscriber and the call is answered by an answering member. Second, the answering member presses one or more keys on the keypad of a customer premises equipment before hanging up. Third, the call is re-terminated to the same telephone number. When the call re-terminates, there are a number of different options for the subscriber to pick up the re-terminated call. In one option, the call can be allowed to ring through to a voice mailbox associated with an intended member. In another option, the call be allowed to ring long enough to activate an answering machine. In still another option, the call can be picked up by a fax machine. In an implementation in which the re-terminated call has a distinctive ringing tone, the call can be answered by an intended member who is associated with the distinctive ringing tone.

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